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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:  
Colin Temple

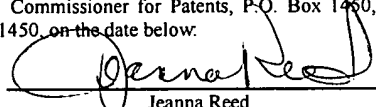
Serial No.: 10/776,887

Filed: February 11, 2004

For: Drilling Fluids with Improved Shale  
Inhibition and methods of Drilling  
in Subterranean Formations

§  
§ Group Art Unit: 1712  
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§  
§ Examiner: Tucker, Philip C.  
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§ Atty Docket: 2003-IP-009967U1P1  
§ HLBT:0014 (BLT/TUM)  
§

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION OR MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.6(d) or is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:	
December 6, 2006 Date	 Jeanna Reed

Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO  
OFFICE ACTION MAILED ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2006**

In response to the Office Action mailed on September 6, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.